

D2 9. (Twice Amended) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 13 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for the treatment of bone, cartilage or connective tissues or teeth.

Sub 31 11. (Amended) An isolated protein of the TGF- β family encoded by an isolated DNA molecule which comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- D3
- a) the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1,
 - b) a part of SEQ ID NO:1 which encodes nucleotides 1782-2142 and encodes the mature protein,
 - c) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO:2,
 - d) a nucleotide sequence which encodes a portion of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said portion is the mature protein, and
 - e) a nucleotide sequence which encodes a portion of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said portion comprises the seven cysteine region as shown in SEQ ID NO: 13 and which has essentially the same osteoinductive activity of the protein.

D4 13. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one protein according to claim 11.

D5 16. A dental implant which contains the protein according to claim 11 [13].

D6 20. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, wherein said matrix material is a biocompatible porous material that can be biologically degraded.

D7 21. An isolated protein of the TGF- β family encoded by a DNA molecule which comprises the part of SEQ ID NO:1 which encodes the mature protein and further comprises nucleotide sequences coding for at least one of signal peptide or propeptide.

D8 22. An isolated protein of the TGF- β family encoded by a DNA molecule which comprises nucleotides 640-2142 of SEQ ID NO:1.

D8 24. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 13, for application in cases where angiogenesis is advantageous or desired.

25. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one protein according to claim 11, wherein the protein is contained on and/or in a natural or synthetically prepared matrix material.

Please add new claims 26-27 as follows:

D9 --26. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or filler.